

## **Private Property Right Conflicts**

- Complexity of Canyon Issues—Recreation, Watershed, Ownership both public and private
- Committee composition
- Development of Goals, Objectives and Strategies
- Economic Drivers



## **Ensuring Watershed Protection**

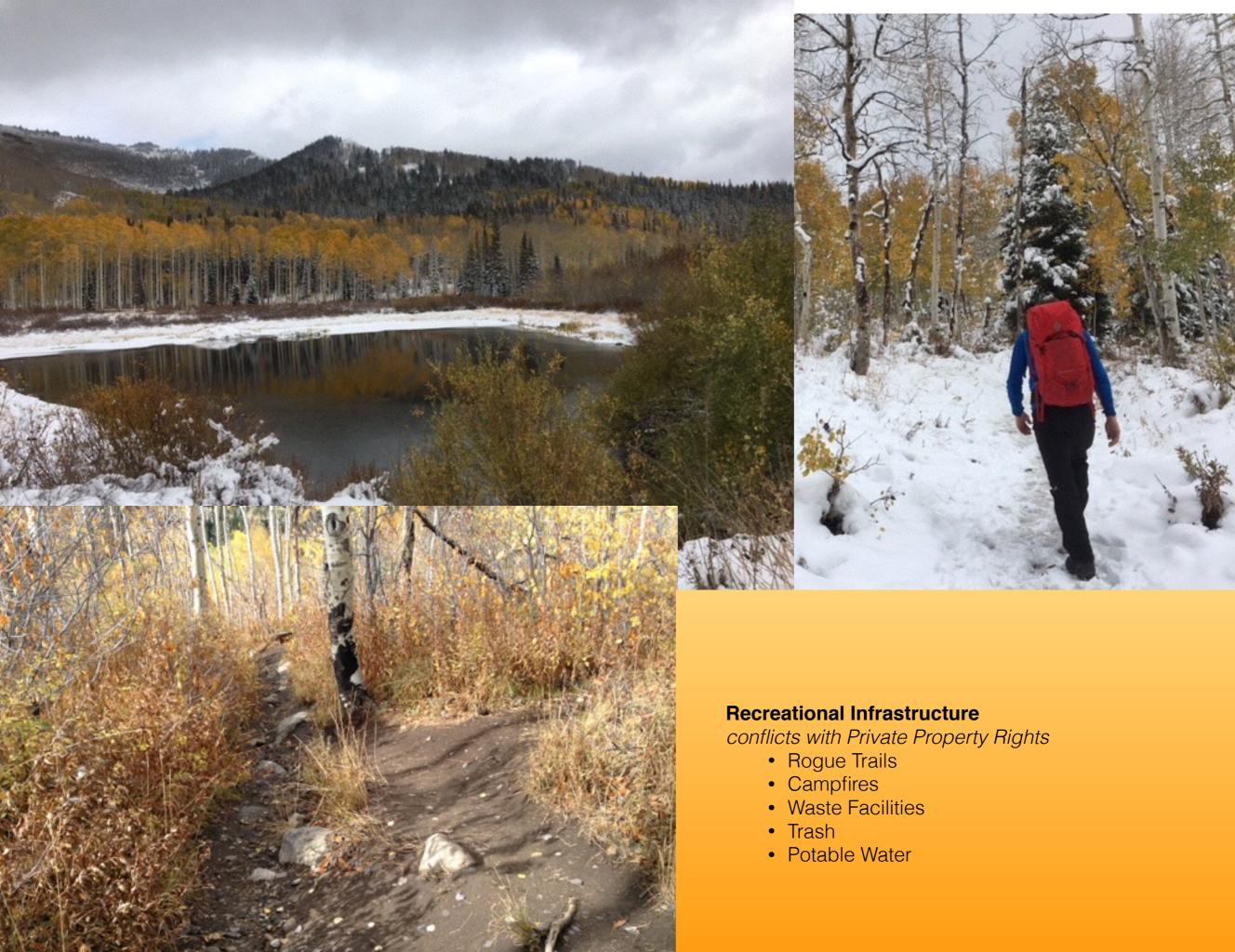
- Goal: Protect watershed through acquisition of inholdings
  - Objective: Identify funding sources
  - Objective: Create new funding sources
  - Objective: Acquisition protocol and methodology must be conservative and robust
  - Objective: Non-governmental and local organizations provide matches





Goal: Develop adequate facilities for quality recreational experience

- Objective: Provide on-going funding to alleviate visitor impacts
- Objective: Create interlocal cooperation
- Objective: Identify what facilities are needed versus what facilities exist/function (toilets, transportation, trails, potable water)
- Objective: NRCA should include funding for this infrastructure

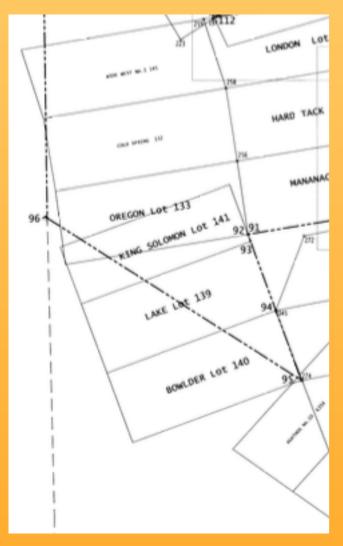




**Alleviate Private Property Conflicts** 

Goal: Protect the public trust by not creating private benefit

- Objective: Establish criteria which rewards landowner contributions
- Objective: Establish validity and checks/balances in land acquisition
- Objective: Only dealing with willing sellers/willing buyers



- Complex ownership and Title in the Canyons
- Mineral Surveys and Geologist reports
- Undivided ownership interests
- Unknown owners of a portion of certain claims
- Lack of on the ground surveys



The subcommittee recognizes that unreasonable expectations will always result in conflicts where there are two opposing parties. Land acquisition is only one tool and there are privately owned lands that need to follow established paths to resolve regulatory conflicts without an overly costly or onerous process for landowners who could be considered grandfathered recognizing that there is legal precedent and established processes for this type of conflict resolution.

The principles that we as a committee are in favor of are:

- Willing sellers, willing buyers
- Regulations that strive to balance public health, welfare, safety, and environmental concerns with private property rights
- Provide multiple paths for conflict solution
- Encourage all parties involved in conflict to engage in collaborative process and explore outside expertise and resources.
- All areas of focus create conflicts in the canyons because of a lack of funding. The longer these conflicts go un-addressed, the more elevated they will continue to get.
- The LeRay McAllister fund could potentially provide a starting point for resolving the regulatory and acquisition conflicts up the canyons.
- Funds can be leveraged if other entities provide funding as well.
- Additional criteria specific to the challenges of landownership in the canyons and a fair process may need to be developed to adequately deal with conflicts (i.e. clear title, surveys of mining claims and determination of overlapping ownerships as well as mineral estate division and value).



**RECOMMENDATIONS** 

- 1) To utilize the LeRay McAllister Critical Lands fund as an objective process to vet land acquisition projects brought forward by willing sellers through the allocation of \$2 million in funding designated specifically for the Wasatch Front Canyons stipulating the funds must be matched by other public and private funding sources.
- 2) To address increased recreational infrastructure needs through current available funding, an example being the Governor's Office of Outdoor Recreation.
- 3) To ensure that a component of the National Recreation Conservation Area legislation incorporates funding to adequately deal with recreational infrastructure needs and issues.